

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 /061 W
-----071551 252120Z /73

P 252026Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2773
INFO AMEMBASSY MANAGUA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L BOGOTA 6834

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PBOR, CO, NI
SUBJECT: QUITA SUENO TREATY

REF: STATE 172378

1. AN EXPLICIT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT BY THE DEPARTMENT THAT THE QUITA SUENO TREATY IS DEAD MIGHT WELL PROVOKE A LOCAL REACTION WHICH WOULD BE EMBASRRASSING TO THE U.S. AND HARMFUL TO OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS.

2. THERE SEEMS TO BE LITTLE INTEREST OR EVEN KNOWLEDGE ABOUT THE TREATY IN THE GENERAL PUBLIC AND THERE HAS BEEN LITTLE PRESS COVERAGE ON THE SUBJECT. NEVERTHELESS, THERE IS SUPPORT FOR THE TREATY IN SOME CIRCLES IN THE COLOMBIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY AND CONGRESS. THERE IS SOME LIKELIHOOD THAT THESE GROUPS WOULD STIR UP AN UNFAVORABLE PRESS AND PUBLIC REACTION AGAINST THE U.S. PERHAPS EVEN CHARGING THAT INTERNATIONAL PETROLEUM COMPANIES WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE FAILURE OF THE U.S. TO RATIFY THE TREATY.

3. IN ADDITION, PRESIDENT LOPEZ HIMSELF COULD REACT NEGATIVELY TO SUCH AN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT BY THE DEPARTMENT. ONE OF LOPEZ' PRINCIPAL FOREIGN POLICY OBJECTIVES HAS BEEN THE CONFIDENTIAL

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DEFINITION OF COLOMBIA'S MARITIME LIMITS. HE MAY WELL INTERPRET THE DEPARTMENT'S ACKNOWLEDGEMENT THAT THE TREATY IS DEAD AS A SET-BACK TO THAT POLICY, ADMINISTERED BY THE U.S., AND REACT NEGATIVELY.

4. CONSEQUENTLY WE SEE NO COMPELLING REASON WHY THE DEPARTMENT SHOULD SPECIFICALLY ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THERE IS NO LONGER ANY

POSSIBILITY THAT THE U.S. SENATE WILL RATIFY THE TREATY. BOTH THE
U.S. AND COLOMBIA ARE SIGNATORIES OF OTHER TREATIES WHICH HAVE NOT YET

BEEN RATIFIED OR WHICH HAVE TAKEN MANY YEARS AND EVEN DECADES TO
RATIFY. IN THIS INSTANCE WE WOULD BE CREATING UNNECESSARY DIFF-
ICULTIES FOR OURSELVES BY MAKING SUCH AN AKNOWLEDGMENT. WE
STRONGLY RECOMMEND AGAINST IT. WE AGREE THAT IN PRIVATE EXCHANGES
WITH THE GOC WE SHOULD PROVIDE A FRANK AND REALISTIC ASSESSMENT
OF THE CURRENT SITUATION BUT WE THINK IT WOULD BE UNWISE TO EXCLUDE
COMPLETELY THE POSSIBILITY OF SOME FAVORABLE CHANGE
IN CIRCUMSTANCES SOMETIME IN THE FUTURE.
DREXLER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TREATY RATIFICATION, TREATY TERMINATION, QUITA SUENO, PUBLIC ATTITUDES, UPPER HOUSE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 25-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Review Release Date: n/a
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Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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Subject: QUITA SUENO TREATY
TAGS: PBOR, PGOV, CO, US
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